Introduction by Paul Emile Anders

For students of ancient Greek, I think it helps to write and speak at least some Greek. Such writing and speaking gives students practice with declensions, conjugations and constructions. Some of what goes on in a Greek class is grammatical discussion, and it can take place in Greek. Students and teachers often add notes about points of grammar to a text they are studying, and such notes can be written in Greek. The main purpose of this list is to provide a word list for such students, not a guide to understanding ancient Greek grammatical texts.

I began this list of ancient Greek grammatical terms in the late 1990s. David Tulon Brown and Juliana Frazier have provided many Greek additional grammatical terms and provided other assistance. Some terms are found in ancient writers, especially Dionysius Thrax (DT) and Apollonius Dyscolus (AD). In some instances, a simple-minded translation into Greek has been adopted; e.g., for words like purpose and result; such entries are indications of work that remains to be done.

C. A. E. Luschnig’s An Introduction to Ancient Greek has a number of ancient Greek grammatical terms and a number of sentences from DT. There is also a text on ancient Greek written in Greek by Theodore of Gaza, published in 1495; some of it was translated by Erasmus. Some lists of grammatical terms came to light as the work progressed; e.g., William G. Frost’s list in Alpha: A Greek Primer: Introductory to Xenophon, Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1891, now on the internet.

Various terms are accompanied by citations from ancient authors as suggested by dictionaries like LSJ. Many words that are fairly common and can be found in a standard dictionary are given
without citation. In some cases where an English word or phrase is not found in English to Greek dictionaries that were consulted, we have provisionally inserted a term in the list, to be supplanted if a better one comes to light. Some of these phrases have simply been constructed using individual ancient Greek words, although they may not be used as grammatical terms in ancient literature. Where more than one term for a concept is employed by ancient writers, we generally content ourselves with one. Occasionally where no appropriate translation was found in a dictionary of ancient Greek, we used a dictionary of modern Greek: J. T. Pring. The Pocket Oxford Greek Dictionary. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1982.

Enjoy!

ABBREVIATIONS
AD = Apollonius Dyscolus. ii A.D.
   Adv. = de Adverbiis
   Conj. = de Coniunctionibus
   Pron. = de Pronominibus
   Synt. = de Syntaxi


Householder = The Syntax of Apollonius Dyscolus. Translated, and with commentary by Fred W. Householder. Amsterdam John
ANCIENT GREEK GRAMMATICAL TERMS

ablative (noun): ἡ ἀφαίρετική πτώσις (L&S)
accept: ὁ τόνος, —ου
accusative (noun): ἡ αἰτιατική, —ης
act (verb): δράω
action; abstraction; deed: τὸ πρᾶγμα, τοῦ πράγματος
active: ἐνεργετικός, —ή, —όν (See Uhlig on D.T. 13)
acute: ἡ ὄξεια, —ας
adjectival: ἐπιθετικός, -ή, -όν (Plut., Gram- CY, SV; cf. LSJ s.v. συγκριτέον; D.T.635.9, A.D. Synt.58.28)
adjective: τὸ ἐπιθετικόν, -οù
adverb; that which is said afterwards: τὸ ἐπίρρημα, τοῦ ἐπιρρήματος
affirmative: κατηγορικός, -ή, -όν (LSJ)
agent; he who acts; doer: ὁ δρων, -όντος (P&V; SW; cf. LSJ s.v. δράω)
alphabet: τὰ γράμματα (CGD)
analysis; examination: ἡ ἐξέτασις, -εως
aorist tense: ὁ ἀριστός χρόνος
apodosis; explanation; a giving back: ἡ ἀπόδοσις, -εως (LSJ cites A.D. Synt.155.25, cf. Heliod.ap.Orib. 48.70.5)
article: τὸ ἄρθρον, -οù
aspirated: hairy; hoarse: δασύς, δασέα, δασοῦ (Allen, p. 15; D.T.)
augment (noun): ἡ σύξησις, -εως (LSJ, cites EM.338.47)
before (in time): πρότερος, -ή, -ον (L&S)
cadence or close of a period; ending, termination: ἡ κατάλησις, -εως (A.D.29.17; Longin., Demetri)
capable of inflection: πτωτικός, -ή, -όν
case: ἡ πτώσις, τῆς πτώσεως; the cases: αἱ πτώσεις
circumflex: ἡ περισπωμένη, -ης
colon: ἡ μέση στιγμή (from David Brown; D.T.4; cf. LSJ ύποστιγμή)
colon [arch.]: ὁ / ἡ κίων, -ονος [omn.] (CY)
comma: ἡ ύποστιγμή, -ης (DT.4; LSJ)
common noun; friendly greeting, familiarity: ἡ προσηγορία, -ίας
commonly: κοινῶς
comparative genitive: γενικὴ συνκριτικὴ
comparative: συνκριτικός, -ή, -όν
compare: εἰκάζω (M&T)
complement (noun): τὸ πληρώμα, -ατος (CY)
complete (verb): πληρώω
compound (noun): τὸ σύμμιγμα, -ατος (CGD)
condition: ἡ ύποθεσις, -εως (LSJ)
conditional: ύποθετικός, -ή, -όν (RT cites Aristotle)
conjunction; that which binds: ὁ σύνδεσμος, τοῦ συνδέσμου
consonant: τὸ σύμφωνον, τοῦ συμφώνου; consonants: τὰ ἄφωνα
(Woodhouse)
contraction: ἡ συναγωγή, −ῆς (CY)
contrary to: παρὰ + dative (M&T)
coronis; hook: ἡ κορώνις, −ιδος (Smythe; L&S)
correlative: ἀντίστροφος, −όν (LSJ; cf. antistrophe, 5.3012)
crasis: ἡ κράσις, −εως (Smythe; L&S)
dative (noun): ἡ δοτική, −ῆς
dative with reference to whom: δοτικὴ περὶ οὖ (a guess - see WY s.v. reference)
declension: ἡ κλίσις, −εως
decline: κλίνω, κλινῶ, ἐκλίνω, ἐκλινάμην
defective: ὀλιγωρμένος, −ας, −ον (A.D.); cf. esteem little; (pass) neglect: ὀλιγωρέω (LSJ)
degree: τὸ ἄξιωμα, −ατος (CY)
deliberation; act of thinking; reflection: ἡ βουλεύσις, −εως (CGD); ἡ ἐννοια, −ας; cf. νοῦς (LSJ)
delineation: ἡ κλίσις, −εως (CY)
demonstrative: δεικτικός, −η, −ον (LSJ)
diaeresis: ἡ διαίρεσις, −εως (LSJ cites A.D. Pron. 87.2, al.)
diphthong: ἡ διφθογγος, τοῦ διφθόγγου
dual (adj.): διϊκός, −η, −ον (LSJ cites D.T. 635.30)
elision: ἡ ἀποκοπή, −ῆς (CGD)
enclitic (adj.): ἐνκλιτικός, −η, −ον (L&S 67)
explanation: ἡ ἐξήγησις, −εως (SW)
fact: τὸ ἔργον, −ου
feminine: θηλυκός, −η, −ον (LSJ cites D.T. 634.17, D.H. Amm. 2.11)
final syllable; ending, termination: ἡ κατάλησις, −εως (AD 29.17; Longin., Demetri)
first (adj.): πρῶτος, πρώτη, πρῶτον (D.T. 13)
future (adj.): μέλλων, −ουςα, −ου (CY)
future perfect: ὁ τετελέσμενος μέλλων
future tense: ὁ μέλλων, −ουτος (LSJ, s.v. μέλλω; cites D.T. 638.23, A.D. Synt. 69.28, etc.)
gender: τὸ γένος, −ου
genitive (noun): ἡ γενική, −ῆς
Give the first principal part.: δός (δότε) τὸ πρῶτον κεφάλαιον μέρος (PEA)
glossary: αἱ λέξεις, −ῶν (LSJ cites Ath. 11.485e); cf. ἡ λέξις, −εως; cf. tongue, language; obsolete or foreign word [that needs explanation]: ἡ
γλώσσα, –νς (cf. LSJ)
grave: ή βαρέια, –ις
Greek (adj.): ‘Ελληνικός, –ης, –όν
hortatory: προτροπτικός, –ης, –όν
imperative mood: ή προστατική ἐγκλίσις
imperfect tense: ο παρατατικός, –οῦ (L&S)
indirect: σκολιός, –α, –όν (CY)
indirect command: ή οὐκ ὀφθη ἐντολή (PEA)
indirect object: τὸ κατὰ δοτικήν (Householder 275)
infinite mood: ή ἀπαρεμφάτος ἐγκλίσις
infl: κλίνω, κλινῶ, ἐκλίνα, ἐκλινάμην (L&S 1940)
interjection: ή παρεμβάλη, τῆς παρεμβάλης (CGD)
intransitive (adj.): ἀμετάβατος, –ον
irregular: ἀνώμαλος, –ον (LSJ)
language: ή γλώσσα, τῆς γλώσσης
lesson: τὸ μάθημα, –ατος
letter: that which is drawn: τὸ γράμμα, τοῦ γράμματος
line of writing: ο̄ στίχος, –οῦ abbr. st. (CGD Eng. > Gk.)
masculine; male: ἀρσενικός, –ης, –όν (LSJ cites Plu.2.1011C)
memory: ή μνήμη, –ης (L&S)
middle: μέσος, –ης, –ον (See Uhlig on D.T. 13)
mingle: κεράννυμι
modify: μεταβάλλω [CY]
mood: ή ἐγκλίσις, –εως (LSJ cites D.H.Comp.6, D.T.638.7, A.D.Synt.248.14, etc.)
notation: ή ἀρνεσις [SGW]
neuter: οὐδέτερος, –α, –ον (LSJ cites D.H.Amm.2.10, A.D. Pron.6.19)
nominative (noun): ή ὄνομαστική, –ης
noun: τὸ ὄνομα, τοῦ ὄνοματος
nouns: τὰ ὄνοματα
numbers: οἱ ἄριθμοι
object: τὸ διαστιθέμενον, –ου (A.D.70 from Householder 110)
opative mood: ή ἐυκτική ἐγκλίσις
page: ή σέλις, –ιδος
paradigm: τὸ παράδειγμα, –ατος; cf. exhibit side by side: παραδείκνυμι (LSJ)
parsing: οἱ μερισμοῖς, –οῦ (LSJ; AD 1.71 from Householder)
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<th>Description</th>
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<td>Part</td>
<td>to μέρος, -ous</td>
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<td>η μετοκή, -ῆς</td>
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<td>Partitive Genitive</td>
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<td>Past (Adj.)</td>
<td>παροιχόμενος, -ῆ, -ον; cf. to have gone: οἴχομαι; to have come: ἥξω (L&amp;S; CY)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Perfect Tense</td>
<td>ὁ παρακείμενος χρόνος</td>
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<td>Person</td>
<td>τὸ πρόσωπον, τοῦ προσώπου (D.T. 13)</td>
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<td>Personification</td>
<td>ἡ προσώποποια [προσο]</td>
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<td>ὁ ὑπερσυντελικός χρόνος</td>
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<td>Potential (Noun)</td>
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<td>δυνητικός, -ῆ, -όν</td>
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<td>Preposition</td>
<td>placing in public; placing first: ἡ πρόθεσις, τῆς προθέσεως</td>
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<td>πρῶτος, -η, -ον (SW)</td>
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<td>Principal</td>
<td>of the head, κεφάλαιος, -α, -ον [mL&amp;S]</td>
</tr>
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<td>Prior</td>
<td>πρότερος, -ἐρα, -ον (H&amp;Q for the -ά in fem. [RT. Lat. to Gr.])</td>
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<td>Prohibition</td>
<td>ἡ κώλυσις (CGD)</td>
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<td>Pronoun</td>
<td>ἡ ἀντωνυμία, -ας</td>
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<td>name, fame: τὸ ὄνομα, τοῦ ὄνοματος</td>
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<td>Properly</td>
<td>ἴδιος</td>
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<td>Protasis</td>
<td>a stretching forth; proposal: ἡ πρότασις, -εως (LSJ cites D.L.3.52)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Punctuation</td>
<td>prick, mark, puncture; a moment: ἡ στιψμή, -ῆς</td>
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<td>Purpose</td>
<td>ἡ προσέρεσις, -εως (SW)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qualitative</td>
<td>ποῖος, -α, -ον</td>
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<td>Question (Noun)</td>
<td>ἡ ἐρώτησις, τῆς ἐρωτήσεως</td>
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<td>Reduplication</td>
<td>ὁ διπλασιασμός, -οῦ (A.D. Synt. 4.39 from Householder)</td>
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<td>Reference</td>
<td>ἡ ἐπιτροπή, -ῆς (L&amp;S)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular</td>
<td>equal; even; uniform: ὁμολογος, -η, -ον (a guess based on gram. usage of ὁμομαλός)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regularly</td>
<td>κοσμικός (CGD)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
relative: ἀναφορικός, -ῆ, -όν
result: τὸ τέλος, -ους (JM)
second (adj.): δεύτερος, δευτέρα, δεύτερον (D.T. 13)
secondary: δευτερίος, -ας, -ον (RT)
semicolon: ἡ μέση στιγμή (DT.4; cf. LSJ ύποστιγμή; from David Brown)
sentence: ὁ λόγος αὐτοτελής [-ῆς -ές] (LSJ, cites A.D.Synt.3.5; cf. Householder)
separation: ὁ χωρισμός, -οῦ cf. without: χωρίς
sequence: ἡ διαδοχή (L&S)
singular (noun): ὁ ἕνικός ἀριθμός
smooth: ψιλός, -ῆς, -όν
sound: ὁ φωνή, -ῆς

specific: εἰδικός (CGD [1 Jan 2010] [cf. τὸ εἶδος, -ους])
speech: ὁ λόγος, -οῦ (CY, cites Plat., Arist)
speech; utterance: τὸ φῶνημα, -ατος (LSJ)
statement: ὁ λόγος, -οῦ; ἡ διήγησις, -εως (CGD Eng. > Gk. διήγησις also means discussion, narration [M&T])
subject: τὸ διατιθέμεν, τοῦ διατιθέμενος (A.D.70 from Householder 110)
subjunctive mood: ἡ ύποτακτικὴ ἔγκλισις (LSJ s.v. ύποτακτικός, -ῆς, -όν; cites D.T.638.8, A.D.Synt.246.15, al.)
subsequent [posterior in RT]: ύστερος, ύστερα, ύστερον (H&Q, p. 790 “later” [ib.] “after” [SW] “subsequent” [SW])
superlative: ύπερθετικός, -ῆς, -όν; in the superlative (adv.): ύπερθετικῶς (LSJ s.v. ύπερθετέον)
syllable: ἡ συλλαβή, τῆς συλλαβῆς
synizesis: ἡ συνίζησις, -εως (LSJ s.v. συνιζάνω; EM735.36, Sch.Heph.2.1)
temporal: χρονικός, -ῆς, -όν (AD Pron 15-24; LSJ)
tenses: οἱ χρόνοι
third (adj.): τρίτος, -ῆς, -όν (D.T. 13)
transitive (adj.): μεταβατικός, -ῆς, -όν (L&S)
translate: ἐρμηνεύω (Xen. An. 5.4.4)
understand: ύπολαμβάνω
unvoiced; bare, bald: ψιλός, -ῆς, -όν
verb: τὸ ῥήμα, τοῦ ῥήματος
verbs: τὰ ῥήματα
vivid: σαφὴς, -ῆς (PEA); ὁξύς, -εία, -ύς (CY); more vivid: ὁξύτερος, -ας, -ον
vocal: φωνητικός, -ή, -όν
vocative (noun): ἡ κλητική, -ῆς
voice: ἡ διαθέσις, -εώς (See Uhlig on D.T.13); ἡ φωνή, -ῆς
voiceless; dumb: ἀφωνος, -ου
vowel: τὸ φωνήμα, τοῦ φωνήματος (D.T.20.4)
wish (noun): ἐπιθυμία, -ας (M&T)
wish contrary to past fact (noun): ἐπιθυμία παρὰ παροιχωμένῳ ἔργῳ (PEA)
word: ὁ λόγος, -ου (CY, cites Plat., Arist.)

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